

**Colonel D. G. Harper**  
**Chief of Police**

## **Harrisonburg Police Department**

**Lt. Kurt Boshart**  
**Criminal Investigations Commander**

**Contact: Mary-Hope Vass**  
Public Information Officer  
Harrisonburg Police Department  
Office Phone 540-437-2618

# News Release

## **HPD Arrested a Frequent Retail Shoplifter**

**Jan. 7, 2010**

The Harrisonburg Police Department recently arrested a man for stealing more than \$12,000 worth of merchandise.

On Dec. 22, 2009, police responded to Barnes and Noble, 289 Burgess Road, for a complaint that a significant amount of merchandise had been taken from the store.

With help from Barnes and Noble's loss prevention officer, HPD was able to identify a suspect that frequented many other retail stores in Harrisonburg.

Justin Giordano, 20, of Harrisonburg was arrested on Dec. 22, 2009 and charged with escape without force and was served with two unrelated outstanding warrants. Additional information was obtained and he was charged again on Jan. 5 with two counts of grand larceny, five counts of larceny or theft-third or subsequent offense, and obtaining money by false pretenses.

On Jan. 5, Brittaney Strausbaugh, 20, was charged with receiving stolen goods.

While the suspect claims to have stolen more than \$230,000 worth of items, at this time police can only identify about \$12,000 worth of merchandise that was taken from various stores.

Giordano stole from Barnes and Noble, Wal-Mart, Ross, TJ Maxx, Old Navy, Kohl's, Target, and K-Mart. It is believed Giordano has been shoplifting from the stores since around July of 2009. After taking the items he would frequently sell or pawn the stolen merchandise.

This investigation is ongoing and additional charges are pending. Anyone with any information regarding this case or any other shoplifting case is asked to call Crime Solvers at 574-5050.